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RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.4(D)

William S Van Allen 04/15/2002 10:49:11 AM From DB/Inbox: William S Van Allen

Cable Text:
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TELEGRAM

April 13, 2002

To: SECSTATE WASHDC - IMMEDIATE
Action: DS
From: AMEMBASSY CARACAS (CARACAS 1001 - IMMEDIATE)
TAGS: ECON, PGOV, PREL, EPET, ASEC, CASC, VE
Captions: None
Subject: VENEZUELA'S GENERAL STRIKE AS OF 8:00 PM APRIL 13
Ref: A. CARACAS 1000 B. CARACAS 00998 C. 996 D. 984 E. 980
F.00974 G. 00973 H. 00966 I. 00948

CLASSIFIED BY AMBASSADOR CHARLES S. SHAPIRO.. REASON
1.5 (B) AND (D).

THE MEDIA UNDER ATTACK BY CHAVISTAS

1. (U) Three television stations, RCTV, Globovision, and Venevision, report that pro-Chavez supporters have assembled at each of their offices. Video footage on RCTV showed Chavistas in the streets outside the building. The National Guard arrived and dispersed the crowd, but then left. The crowd reassembled shortly thereafter. RCTV also indicated that they would be cutting their signal due to security concerns, although they appear to still be broadcasting.

2. (C) Globovision informed the PAO that it had pulled its reporters from the streets following threats from the Bolivarian Circles that they would be targeting reporters.

3. (C) At approximately 7:00 pm, [redacted] telephoned [redacted] to inform Emboff that the National Guard had contacted the newspaper to ask them to evacuate their building. The National Guard said that it could no longer guarantee the security of the building. (Comment: We feel that this request is legitimate [redacted])

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SHAPIRO

Additional Addressees:
None

CC:
OPEC COLLECTIVE
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY LIMA

Distribution:

TED9057
ACTION DS-00

INFO LOG-00 MFA-00 NP-00 AID-00 ACQ-00 CA-01 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 CTME-00 INL-00 DINT-00 DODE-00 DOE-00

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L MILLS
DATE/CASE ID: 27 APR 2006 200304421

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